RG104 E-1 Box 148

PROPRIETOR,
JOSEPH WHARTON,
Post Office Address,
BOX 1332, PHILADELPHIA.

AMERICAN NICKEL WORKS,

Camden, N. J. Oct 27 1869

Hon Daniel M Fox Supt U S Mint

Dear Sir

Answering your communication of to day to the effect that the Director of the Mint thinks of rejecting my bid to supply milled & cleaned nickel blanks and asks explanations, I have to say

First: that the Director is in error if he supposes that the advance of 4 7/10 cts per lb. in my last bid over the next preceding one is an advance in the charge for milling and cleaning only The advance is upon the entire cost of the goods, very little if any being on the charge for milling & cleaning

Second: that the recent bids for nickel blanks have been rather absurdly low, and at the last figure of 42 7/10 cts for cleaned & milled the Mint would still be served much cheaper than ever before, either by using its own appliances or by purchasing blanks, with the small exception of what I have called above the absurdly low bids

Third: that those extraordinary low prices resulted from the destructive competition of two great concerns who now have their mills full of other work that pays them profit. One of them, the Scovill Mfg. Co with whom I am allied, would have bid at a higher price but for my intervention New bidding would now I think be higher than the last

Yours truly
Joseph Wharton

NARA RG104, Entry 1, Box 148

American Nickel Works,
Camden, N.J.
October 27, 1887

Hon. Daniel M. Fox, Supt. U.S. Mint

Dear Sir

Answering your communication of today to the effort that the Director of the Mint thinks of rejecting my bid to supply milled & cleaned nickel blanks and desires explanations, I have to say First: that the Director is in error if he supposes that the advances of 4 7/10 cts. per lb. in my last bid over the next proceeding one is an advance in the charge for milling and changing only. The advance is upon the entire cost of the goods, very little if any being on the charge for milling & cleaning.

Second: that the recent bids for nickel blanks have been rather obscenely low, and at the last figure of 42 1/10 cts. for cleaned & milled the Mint would still be served much cheaper than ever before, either by using its own appliances or by purchasing blanks, with the small exception of what I have called above the absurdly low bids.

Third: that those extraordinarily low prices resulted from the destructive competition of two great concours who now have their mills full of other work that pays them profit. One of them, the Scovill Mfg. Co. with whom I am allied, would have bid at a higher price but for my intervention. New bidding would now I think be higher than the last.

Yours Truly
Joseph Wharton